

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A sliding door assembly includes a barrier plate extending across the lower portion of the doorway to prevent the intrusion of water during severe weather conditions. A notch within the barrier plate, enlarging the passageway opened by the sliding door to form an obstruction-free passageway, is sealed by compressing a gasket between the barrier plate and a compression plate mounted to move with the sliding door. An actuator, mounted along the floor adjacent the compression plate with the sliding door closed, moves the compression plate toward the barrier plate, compressing the gasket, in response to operation of a latch lever.